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Interior &
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Painting &
Decorating

Newsletter

Number 35

4 December



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Thanks

... To those who supported this week's school and year 7 and 8 interschool athletics events..

.. To those who attended our Parent Helpers Morning Tea ... and thank you again for your support throughout the year.

... To parents of year 8 students who have dropped leaving books

... To those who have expressed interest in Korean language lessons for their children next year ... we will keep you posted.

.....Thank you for purchasing Scholastic books over the past year, your purchases have earned us nearly \$1000 worth of books for the library.

People of the week

... We give out literally hundreds of certificates over the weeks building up to prize giving. A special congratulations to all of these children whose achievements may be no less significant than those announced at prize giving.

Term calendar

(We will advise further dates as these come to hand)

8 December	School prize-giving (7:00 PM)
9 December	2016 class lists on display (hall notice board)
11 December	Reports issued / Final assembly (2:30pm)
14 December	Final school day 2015 (3pm)
... start date for 2016 will be Tuesday 2nd February	

2015 Prize Giving

Parents and Extended Family

Please keep the evening of Tuesday 8th December free for our annual prize giving.

The evening will start at 7:00pm and will conclude approx 8.30pm with a supper.

Grandparents are welcome.

Families are asked to bring two plates please for a shared supper

– to be placed on tables which will (hopefully) be set up in the hall.

Attendance on this night is quite optional for 5 year olds (all other children are asked to be present please).

A reminder that, if weather necessitates prize giving will be held 7:00pm Thursday 10 December.

Please note .. prize giving starts at 7:00 PM, not 6:30 PM to enable viewing of senior slide shows.



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End of Year Prize giving – Pre-schoolers

.. if we proceed with an outdoor prize giving (**weather permitting**) we ask that parents of pre-schoolers supervise their children closely to ensure that the children on the stage are properly acknowledged. **Please ensure pre-schoolers do not play on the nearby junior playground.** We will set up some DVDs in the library in case some time out is needed.

Interschool Athletics Results

Congratulations to the following children who achieved placings at the Intermediate Interschool Athletics Competition:

Year 7 Girls	Maddison Fred	Shotput – 3 rd Place
Year 7 Girls	Emily Darroch	Longjump – 3 rd Place
Year 8 Boys	Tyrone Fred	Shotput – 2 nd Place
Year 8 Boys	Jacob Attwood	Longjump – 1 st Place

Congratulations to the following children who broke school records in the following events

Tyrone Fred	Shotput	Y8	Boys	11.50m
Maddison Fred	Shotput	Y7	Girls	8.91m
Jynaia Hewson	High Jump	Y6	Girls	1.21m
Mya Simes	150m Sprints	Y6	Girls	25.07sec
Nico Fagalima Robertson	High Jump	Y4	Boys	1.09m

Year 3 Portfolios

Very soon Portfolio's for Year 3's will be sent home. These are not required to be returned as new ones will be issued at the beginning of Year 4 and will remain with them until Year 8.

Library books

... Please get overdue library books to school on Monday.

Year 8 Day ... 10 December

Please return any outstanding permission slips (and payments) for the Year 8 Fun Day by this coming Monday.

Art Exhibition

Exhibits will remain available for viewing up to (hall), and on, prize giving evening (library). So, please feel free to drop by.

Buses on the final day ... 14 December

The school will be officially open on Monday 14 December in order to "clock up" the number of required days. Buses will run to relatively normal times this day (from 3:05 PM) but unpredictable bus loadings could significantly alter bus pick up and drop off times. Please be aware of this. If you intend ending your children along to school on this day (your call) please you may need to factor in a margin either side of usual times.

Keeping Ourselves Safe

Next term the school will deliver the keeping Ourselves Safe Programme across all classes. Toni Bean (Police Education Officer) will assist in the delivery of programmes. If you are interested in hearing Toni speak about the programme, or if you have any questions, you are invited to a meeting at 3:15PM on Thursday 10 December in room 9.

Junior activities

... Monday through Wednesday next week children attend *Get, set, go* fitness (coaching) sessions. Please ensure children have suitable shoes for running, a drink bottle, hat and sunblock on each day.

... On Thursday we will have our Junior Fun Day. We have invited Caro's crazy critters to school, a chance for children to handle animals, ride on miniature pony/ pony and cart. Each class will have a session with Caro in the morning followed by some water activities and a nature walk in the afternoon. Please send children along with togs and towel, drink bottle, **shoes**, hat and wearing sunblock.

... Please send all readers and library books back immediately. We were shocked to find out from our recent book room stock take that a massive amount of **1300** books have been lost in the last 2 years. Please search the house and send books back no matter how long you have had them. Thank you for your help!

Reminders

... please check at home (book case, under beds etc) for junior readers

... one more week please to pay overdue fees and school contributions ... please contact Helen with any questions.

... classes for 2106 will be on display on the hall noticeboard 9 December

... please ensure your child brings their drink bottle to school each day (water best drink)

... please check our lots property bin (by room 10) before year's end. Items remaining after final day will be donated to charities.

Year 8 Leaving Books - URGENT REQUEST

Please ensure any outstanding leaving books are to be returned to school by 7 December so we can present these at prize giving .. we don't want any year 8's without a book on the night.

School contributions / Activity Fees

Please forward any outstanding fees to the school office next week. If you have any questions about these please do not hesitate to contact the school office. Please pay at your nearest convenience.

2016 School Stationery

As for 2015, stationery will need to be ordered online via the OfficeMax website - www.myschool.co.nz



Search for Matarau School and then your child's class. You will find complete class stationery lists with unit prices. Again as for 2015, the school has passed on its reward points to families (who purchase online) , gaining you a further 10% cost advantage (possibly still the only school in NZ that does this). Orders can be placed across the holidays for delivery before school starts. A brochure will be sent home shortly explaining the process. If you do not have internet access please contact Helen for a printed list.

Reports

Reports will be issued 11 December. The report contains statements on your child's effort and attainment in key learning areas and with respect to their social skills and work habits. These statements are summative - meaning that they have been formed after consulting multiple sources of information gathered over the course of the year. They also incorporate teacher judgements based on literally thousands of interactions with your child over the course of the year. Although this report is principally for you, please feel free to share it with your child. Draw attention to their successes and perhaps identify some areas for future focus.

Finally, remember that no single method of reporting should stand alone. Impressions need to be weighed against those from other methods of reporting including early and mid-year interviews, portfolios, student achievement data and so forth. Please congratulate your child on our behalf for the gains they have made.

Finally ...Korean language ... gauging interest

We have enough expressions of interest to take this the next step. Some hurdles ahead but confident ... we will keep you posted.

Digital Devices 2016 - year 4 and up

Last year we introduced an option for parents of paying a full school contribution (which we acknowledge is voluntary), or reduced contribution, if they chose to purchase an ipad for their child. Our goals were to reduce demand on our existing stock of devices, and to allow parents to make the choice on whether or not they wanted their child to have their own (take home) device. This system seems to have worked well, and we would like to put the same option to parents next year. Those who purchased their own devices last year will continue to be levied the lower rate for as long as their child brings their own device to school (remember this does not preclude them, also, using school devices). We also advised that we would commit to providing the most cost effective route for parents who opt for purchasing.

Accordingly ...

... we are trying to arrange a special deal with Noel Leeming at the moment for our families and will (hopefully) be able to advise you of this in next week's newsletter.

... we are also inviting parent, who wish, to opt for laptops or chromebooks as an alternative (these may be a little cheaper). Our suggestion is ipads are best for those in year 4 (and that they will be able to use these right through to year 8 OR pass to a younger sibling), if around year 6, or entering the senior school, you may (your choice) wish to opt for chromebooks or laptops (especially with secondary school in mind).

A number of parents have fed back an understandable concern that too much time on devices may have some detrimental effects on children. We share this concern and will ensure that time is spent away from

devices. An informal survey of teachers this week indicated that most children are spending around 30-40% of their learning time on devices, they are discouraged from using devices during break time.

n.b. parents should feel under no pressure to purchase devices for their children ... this is your call ... we will do our best to provide as many shared (non take home devices) as we can.

Finally .. Prizegiving ... how you can help!

A great deal of thought goes into which children cross the stage on prize giving night. We have comprehensive diagnostic records, and these are trawled for top achievers, ensuring the acknowledgements go to where they are most deserved. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to these children for setting a standard that we can all strive towards. These children remind us that it is cool to do well, that hard work pays off and that (for most of us) nothing comes without effort.

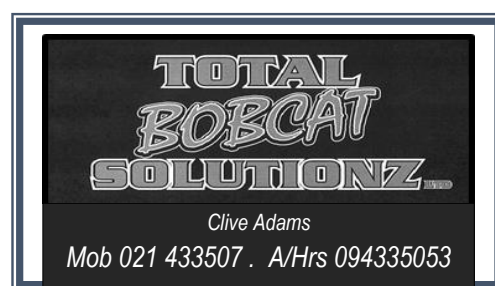
So ... your job description on the night is the same as mine ... to make each child's moment on the stage a special one, and to celebrate the achievements of every child called to the front. If you see a child with a cup or a certificate after prize giving, shake their hand and tell them how proud you are of them. On prize giving night they, and their achievements, belong to us all.

Congratulations in advance to these children and to their parents. See you on the night!

Regards

Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them



Community Notices

Wanted to Rent – Large 3 or 4 bedroom house in Matarau, Ruatangata areas from December / January. Please phone Dion on 021 0826 9976.

For Rent – Cosy country cottage in Ruatangata. 2 bedroom, can be part furnished. \$220 pw inc power. Ph Jenny 027 325 8617

Hopscotch For Kids After School Care

Based at Kensington Park, we transport kids to our centre after school. Daily activities for term 4 - tee ball, mini games, soccer, cooking and basketball. Open until 5.45pm. WINZ subsidies for those who qualify. For more info or to enrol, contact Abbey 0212372598 or email - hello@hopscotchforkids.co.nz

Matarau Tennis Club - Please note the - AGM will now be held 6.00pm Monday 14 December 2015 (not 7/12/15 as listed last week) due to a clash with the Kamo High School prizegiving night.

Hurupaki Educare pre Christmas/January 2016 Holiday Programme

We are opening pre Christmas on Monday 21st December for 3 days and again on Tuesday 5th January 2016 for 4 weeks. We are based in the Hurupaki School Hall. The programme is OSCAR accredited, families can apply for WINZ assistance - conditions apply. Discounts available for two or more children from the one family. Check schoolholidayprogrammes.co.nz or contact Christin on 0274821331 more info.

ArtBeat 2016 is a FREE community arts-based festival located in the heart of Whangarei city at Cafler Park on Saturday 30 January 2016, from 10am-4pm. Make sure you mark your calendar for the long weekend and bring all your family, visitors and a picnic blanket down and join us. You can spend the whole day being entertained with performances on stage, and throughout the park. Or get stuck in and take part in the interactive art zones where there will be FREE activities for the whole family, then indulge your taste buds with a selection of international cuisine available to purchase. This is one of Whangarei's favourite festivals, make sure you are there. If you are keen to register for a stall to sell your work or cuisine contact abbey@creativenorthland.com or drop in to our office at the Old Library, Rust Avenue.

Northkidz Home Based Preschool Care – Local Matarau / Ruatangata area. Spaces available 2016. Hours between 7am to 6pm (after hours negotiable). Pickup & dropoff between school hours. 20 hours ECE. Subsidy available to those eligible. Fun, rural, educational environment in a safe family atmosphere. Phone Trish 435 5775 or 021 843 100 or trish_reumah@hotmail.com

Kitten Wants a Home – Tabby kitten, ready in 3-4 weeks. Perfect for Christmas. Good with kids / dogs. Ph Trish 435 5775.